

Aurora R-VIII Student Handbook

Pate Early Childhood Center



2023-2024

Faculty and Staff Directory

Ackerman, Tara	Kindergarten
Adams, Kaitlyn	First Grade
Allie, Jennifer	Assistant Principal
Blades, Andrea	Second Grade
Bowling, Susan	First Grade
Brown, Dan	Art
Brown, Jamie	Kindergarten
Brundage, Macy	Second Grade
Castor, Lisa	Paraprofessional
Choate, Morgan	Principal
Cline, Faith	Student Services
Cline, Jennifer	Paraprofessional
Cole, Jason	Physical Education
Cornell, Amanda	Paraprofessional
Cutbirth, Ashley	Kindergarten
Cyr, Kristy	Speech/Language
Dailey, Jenna	Literacy Coach
Daughterity, Elizabeth	Student Services
Day, Alissa	Library
Decker, Lisa	Library Aide
Dulier, MaKayla	Second Grade
Eden, Sonja	Kindergarten
Escalera, Elvira	TESOL
Farnsworth, Kristian	Preschool
Fischer, Michelle	Preschool
Gearhart, Shelley	First Grade
Grant, Jennifer	Student Services
Hamelink, Roslyn	Second Grade
Hodges, Amy	Speech/Language
Hunter, Teri	Reading Interventionist
Jenkins, Sherri	Paraprofessional
Joeckel, Stefanie	Preschool
Johnson, Paula	Paraprofessional
Kristek, Jessica	Second Grade
Lancaster, Amanda	Student Services
Lopez, Tiffany	Paraprofessional
Martin, Tara	Math Coach
Miller, Jennifer	Paraprofessional
Mitchell, Kirsten	Second Grade
Morton, Charolette	Student Services
Nash, Mendy	Reading Interventionist

Niezgoda, Farrah
Ray, Heather
Rees, Amy
Rudd, Dawn
Salyers, Alaina
Schuldies, Lisa
Siegrist, Sara
Smith, Jada
Smith, Valerie
Sneed, Natalie
Solak, Amanda
Spooner, Shannon
Thomassen, Dana
Thornhill, Emily
Towe, Morgan
Turner, Jacy
Unverferth, Erin
Whitener, Stephanie, RN
Willhite, Lauren
Williams, Megan
Wilson, Brittany
Woods, Jennifer

Kindergarten
First Grade
Paraprofessional
Paraprofessional
Administrative Assistant
Counselor
Student Services
Speech/Language
First Grade
Music
Student Services
Preschool
Kindergarten
Second Grade
Second Grade
Administrative Assistant
Student Services
School Nurse
ESL
First Grade
Paraprofessional
Paraprofessional

School Hours:

K-2.....7:50 to 3:30
Preschool7:50 to 3:30

School Telephone Numbers:

Pate Early Childhood Center.....678-1552
Mrs. Morgan Choate, Principal mchoate@aurorar8.org
Mrs. Jennifer Allie, Assistant Principal jallie@aurorar8.org
Mrs. Alaina Salyers, Secretary alsalyers@aurorar8.org
Mrs. Jacy Turner, Secretary jturner@aurorar8.org
Mrs. Stephanie Whitener, School Nurse swhitener@aurorar8.org

Central Office

Dr. Ben Yocom, Superintendent.....678-3373
Mr. David Mais, Asst. Superintendent678-4918
Dr. Brenda Lakin, Director of Special Education. . . 678-7742

Transportation

Bus Barn.....678-4005
Mr. Brad Boettler, Director
Mr. George Schmidt, Mechanic

Student Handbook & Helpful Information

Visitors:

We welcome parents at Pate Early Childhood Center during non-instructional activities. Visitors will be asked to visit the office, sign-in, and show identification in order to receive a visitor's pass. Student safety and security will remain a priority, and we utilize a video camera, doorbell system, and visitor tracking software to monitor the entrance and exit of every visitor. Upon arrival at our building, please use the main entrance, ring the bell, wait to be addressed, and identify yourself and the purpose of your visit. Our visitor tracking software also conducts a background check.

For safety purposes and to protect instructional activities in the classroom, unenrolled students will not be allowed to attend classes or recess with the students at Pate. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Emergency Contact Information:

We will collect all the pertinent contact information for every student in our building. That contact information is used to reach parents and other approved family members in the event of an emergency or illness during the school day. Three (3) different emergency contacts should be listed and kept current at all times.

Morning drop-off, early pick-up, Afternoon Release Procedures, and Transportation Changes:

- Morning drop-off: Teachers are available for supervision at 7:30 a.m. . The official start time for school is 7:50 a.m.
- Early pick-up: Please note our office is closed for dismissal between 3:30 and 4:00 p.m. Should your child need to be released from school before the end of the day, a visit to the Pate office to sign your child out is necessary. Parents who arrive after 3:30 p.m., will need to use the car line. Only those listed on the student's emergency contact list will be allowed to take your child from school. Photo identification will be required. Kid Account cards will be required in the pick up line as well.
- Afternoon release procedures: Our school day ends at 3:30 p.m. We will begin loading cars and buses at 3:30 p.m. **We will not be releasing students from inside the building. Parents that would like to transport their student via the car line will enter the car line from Carnation Drive.** Please be advised: There may be traffic back-ups due to the pick-up line. There will be teachers in the car line to check identification. Students are lined up inside the building in the order with which the cars are lined up. Please stay in your vehicle as there will be teachers available to load your child into your car. Students will only be released to parents, guardians, or those specified on the Emergency Contact Information page. Please be prepared to show identification and the student's Kid Account card.
 - Students will not be released to guardians until cars and buses have cleared the lots if you choose to walk up to the front doors during dismissal.
- All drivers are asked to adhere to these safety rules.
 - Do NOT pass in the loading and unloading zone

- Use EXTREME caution when moving your vehicle in the loading and unloading zone
- Drivers not adhering to these safety procedures may be asked to leave the premises by a school representative or the Aurora School Resource Officer.
- Transportation changes: We will send your child to the bus or the car line holding area based on the information you provided on the transportation section of the online enrollment process. Should you need to make a change, please send a note to school or contact the office at 417-678-1552 BEFORE 2:00 p.m. to let us know about the change.

Any special custody problems involving your child should be discussed with the principal and teacher as soon as possible. Parental access will be granted in accordance with the most recent court order. Please provide us with a current court order concerning custody of your child for his/her records.

Please notify us as soon as possible if there are changes in your address or childcare arrangements.

Attendance:

The Missouri compulsory school attendance law requires that all students be in regular attendance. Success in school demands regular school attendance. Lifelong habits, which follow students throughout their lives, are being formed by school attendance. Cultivating the habit of regular school attendance is a shared responsibility between the school, the parents, and the student.

In addition to the specific academic requirements in each class, an acceptable attendance rate must be maintained. Policy exemptions may be granted for extenuating circumstances only. The attendance officer and /or the attendance committee (consisting of one administrator and four teachers) will analyze the extenuating circumstances.

If a student misses school, the parent/guardian should notify the school either by a phone call or a written note. A phone call to the office by 9:00 a.m. on the day of the absence is best. All full and partial absences (other than for those that are school related) are figured in the student's attendance rate. The parent or guardian must notify the school if a student misses classes for legitimate reasons such as:

- Personal injury or illness
- Serious illness in the immediate family
- Professional appointments that cannot be scheduled outside of the school day
- Court summons
- Religious holidays
- Inclement weather
- Quarantine
- Death in the family
- Other absences approved by the committee

When a student's attendance rate drops to 91% or below, the attendance officer will send a notification letter home. If a student's attendance rate drops to 80% or below, the principal may contact the parents to arrange a meeting. The parents have the option of appealing to the

Attendance Committee regarding extenuating circumstances surrounding the absences. This request must be made in writing and submitted to the principal. The Attendance Committee will review the student's entire attendance record. If they determine that extenuating circumstances have contributed significantly to the student's poor attendance, they may grant an exception to the policy. **THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT AN EXCEPTION WILL BE GRANTED.** A student with an unsatisfactory attendance rate is subject to a hotline call for educational neglect, notification of juvenile authorities and a letter written to the prosecuting attorney.

If a student has less than 80% attendance, mandatory summer school will be considered. If a student has less than 80% attendance in each semester, retention will be considered.

In cases of extreme absence and/or truancy, school officials will contact the Lawrence County Juvenile Office, the Lawrence County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, or the Division of Family Services. Educational neglect charges can and will be filed against the parent/guardian in issues of extreme absence.

Special Services:

Schools are required to provide a free, appropriate education to all students, including those attending private/parochial schools between the age of five (5) and twenty-one (21), regardless of handicapping conditions. The qualifying disabilities recognized are: Autism, Deaf/Blind, Emotional Disturbance, Hearing Impairment/Deafness, Intellectual Disability, Multiple Disabilities, Orthopedic Impairment, Other Health Impairment, Specific Learning Disability, Language Impairment, Sound System Disorder (Articulation and/or Phonology), Speech-Fluency, Speech-Voice, Traumatic Brain Injury, Visual Impairment/Blindness and Young Child with a Developmental Delay

Progress Reports:

Progress reports will be sent home with students approximately every three weeks. A fall and spring parent-teacher conference will be scheduled. We encourage 100% attendance from our parents, and a home visit may be made if a conference at school is impossible. We believe communication between parents and educators is vitally important to students' success. We encourage you to utilize all methods of communication with your child's teacher.

School Counselor and Counseling Visits:

Regularly scheduled guidance classes are part of the guidance curriculum. In addition, individual and group counseling services can be made available. Students should feel free to visit the counselor as desired with permission from their teacher. Parents are free to contact the counseling department for student services or other information as needed.

School Nurse and Other Health Services Information:

The health office is where screenings and general care of the students occur.

Immunization records are kept on file in the health office as well. Any concerns dealing with the health area may be addressed with our school nurse.

Children should not be at school when they are contagious or ill. They are unable to learn well when they are feeling ill. If your child has a temperature of 100 degrees or greater, vomiting or diarrhea, he/she should stay at home until these symptoms have not occurred for 24 hours without the assistance of medication or otherwise approved by the school nurse.

Medication must be given to the school nurse for dispersal. The health room will not dispense medication unless it is sent to school in the original container that includes directions, and a note signed by parents is attached. Students may be given over the counter medications, Acetaminophen (generic Tylenol), or Ibuprofen (generic Motrin) with signed permission from the parent or guardian. This permission form is on the emergency card. These over-the-counter medications are provided as a courtesy by the school district. The school nurse, or designated person approved to give the medication, will give medication as directed by the bottle or packaging. The medication will only be given for a headache, muscle/joint stiffness, menstrual cramps, dental pain, and only after making sure the student has no allergies to the over the counter medication.

The Aurora R-VIII School District checks students periodically for head lice. If a student is found to have nits, information will be sent home for the family. If a student is found to have head lice (live bugs), the child will be removed from school until proper treatment has been used. Before the student can return to school, the student must be treated with an approved lice and nit killer and checked by the school nurse.

Cell phones, electronic devices, other personal property and lost and found:

It is strongly suggested that cell phones not be brought to Pate Early Childhood Center due to the possibility of damage, loss of item, theft, and the interruption of the daily school routine. If brought by necessity, cell phones must be turned off and stored in a safe, inconspicuous place. Phones are not to be used during class, between classes, or at lunch. Pate Early Childhood Center students who need to use a phone should report to the office for permission. **CELL PHONES ARE NOT TO BE USED IN ANY SCHOOL-WIDE EMERGENCY SITUATION DUE TO THE LIKELIHOOD OF INTERFERENCE WITH OFFICIAL ACTIONS.** Other electronic devices such as personal audio devices, pagers, digital cameras, and such should not be brought to school without special approval from the administration. Such items will be subject to seizure.

All clothing such as coats, hats, gloves, boots, lunch boxes, backpacks, etc. needs to be marked with the student's name. Numerous unclaimed items are left at the close of the school year. Students should be reminded to check the lost and found box frequently. Any unclaimed items will be given to charity twice during the school year.

Expensive items or items of value, including electronic games, should not be brought to school. Trading cards of any type (i.e. Pokémon, baseball cards, etc.) are not permitted at school. Damage of personal items brought to school is the responsibility of the individual owner. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Recess and playground:

Weather permitting, students will have outside recess time. If your child must stay in from recess, please provide us with a doctor's note for a specific amount of time or a daily note stating why your child cannot go outside.

Playground rules:

- Always follow the directions of the teachers on the playground.
- Stay only in designated play areas. Do not leave the play area for any reason. Students will not be allowed in between the hallway wings at recess time. If the playground balls go beyond the perimeter of the playground or over the fence, it will be reported to the teacher on duty.
- Throwing rocks, sticks, or any objects other than playground balls is prohibited.
- The following items are not permitted to be used at recess: baseball bats, golf balls, squirt guns, knives or other potentially dangerous gadgets. If there is a question about whether a toy is suitable for our playground, please ask your duty teacher.
- Damage of personal items taken to recess is the responsibility of the individual owner.
- Any type of fighting will result in immediate suspension of that recess for all parties involved and further consequences will be determined by the teacher on duty and/or the principal.
- Inclement weather may cause cancellation of outside recess. Teachers will make that decision prior to recess. Students will not go outside if the "feels like" temperature is below 32 degrees.
- Students need to dress according to the weather. Hats, gloves, and coats should be worn in cold weather. As long as the "feels like" temperature is 32 degrees or higher, students will have outside recess.

Field Trip information and guidelines:

Field trips are a valuable part of the school experience. For safety and student protection, we will observe the following guidelines on all trips:

1. Parent signature on student's emergency cards grants permission for your child to participate in school-sponsored field trips and before school intramural programs, by walking or in school sponsored vehicles that would necessitate leaving school grounds. Parents will be notified in advance of all field trips taken by students at Pate ECC. Notes will be sent home with the students explaining the trip. Parents will have the opportunity to exclude their child from taking the field trip by providing a written request to the teacher.
2. All students will ride on the bus going to the field trip.
3. A parent or any person designated on the emergency card may pick-up a child for the return trip. These students will be signed out on a form provided by the teacher, and the student's attendance will be negatively impacted by that absence. If someone other than the parent is picking up the child, a note from the parent and a photo id will be required before the child is released.
4. Each group of students on a field trip will have a teacher or designated supervisor. Questions during the field trip should be addressed to that supervisor.
5. On occasion, we will have a student who has previously demonstrated inappropriate conduct and lack of adherence to safety procedures that causes us concern. In those cases, we will request that the child's parent attends to assist.

6. The Aurora R-8 School District has a no smoking policy for employees which extends to all school activities. We request that those individuals attending field trips also observe this policy. This also includes vaping devices/ e-cigarettes.
7. Enrolled students are the only children allowed to ride a school bus on a field trip.
8. We ask that all guidelines be voluntarily observed. The principal will address any non-compliance with the guidelines. All individuals attending field trips will observe the field trip guidelines.
9. Parents attending the field trip must complete a simple background check through the Pate office. This can be done by bringing your driver's license to the Pate office for the background check or calling the Pate office with your driver's license information.
10. Students attending the field trip need to meet the following requirements in the month leading up to the field trip in order to join their class:

Attendance	Behavior
An average attendance percentage of 90% (excludes absences for sicknesses or doctors appointments) in the month leading up to the field trip.	Does not receive any days of OSS in the month leading up to the field trip. Does not receive any days of ISS in the month leading up to the field trip date.
Parents will be notified if percentage drops below 90% during the month leading up to the field trip date.	Parents will be notified of any office referrals in the month leading up to the field trip date.

Lunch and breakfast information:

Pate Early Childhood Center has a food service accounting system. Students should give all money for lunch to their teacher. This will be credited to the child's account. No change will be returned to students. Payment by the week or month is encouraged. *All payments need to be made in advance.* Periodically your child will receive notices regarding balances. If possible, please send a check made payable to the Aurora R-8 School District instead of cash. Please write the child's name on the memo line of the check.

If there are changes in the household income, parents may apply for the free/reduced lunch program at any time. Applications are available in the office.

Student charges for lunch will be limited to \$10.00. Students exceeding the \$10.00 charge limit will be served an alternative lunch until the charges are paid. There will be a \$5.00 charge for replacement of meal cards that are lost or damaged.

Meal Prices (These prices are subject to change.)

Breakfast:

Breakfast is served in the classroom each day and is free to all students.

Lunch:

Full price \$2.75 Reduced \$0.40

Lunchroom Procedures:

Rules are needed in the lunchroom for safety and sanitary reasons. We have many students entering and exiting our lunchroom at various times. If an emergency arises, the teachers in charge must be able to get the students' attention immediately.

The following rules will be followed in the cafeteria:

- *Students are to remain seated from the time they get their tray until they are dismissed.
- *The noise level should be kept to a minimum at all times. Quiet talking to a neighbor is permissible unless otherwise directed by the lunchroom supervisors.
- *Students are expected to use good table manners.
- *Students are to keep their hands and feet to themselves.
- *Due to health department regulations, students will not be allowed to share or trade food.
- *Students who deliberately create an excessive mess in the cafeteria will assist in its cleanup.

Student birthdays and class and holiday party information:

Occasionally, we will have class parties with a related holiday theme. Those parties will be scheduled on the day that is deemed most appropriate for the instructional needs of the building by the principal. Class holiday parties may or may not fall on the actual holiday for which the party is themed.

One of our goals is to help all students have high self-esteem. We know that you want your child to feel good about himself/herself. A high self-esteem leads the student to be positive not only regarding himself/herself but also towards other students. This enables the student to be able to cooperate with others and set a good climate for learning. For this reason, we will not allow party invitations to be given out in the classrooms unless all students are to receive one.

Food brought as party treats or classroom snacks may not be homemade. Food items must be purchased from a bakery that receives state inspections.

PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) and volunteering at school:

The Parent Teacher Organization is an integral part of the school system. It serves the students in many ways and thus serves the school. To function effectively, the PTO needs volunteer workers with a broad range of talents and skills. We urge all parents to attend PTO meetings, programs and activities sponsored by our building. Parents who put in long hours of work for the benefit of our students appreciate everyone's participation. Meetings will be scheduled throughout the school year. You will be notified regarding meeting dates by notes sent home with your child.

The Aurora R-8 School District offers the opportunity for parents and other community members to become involved in a volunteer program. We encourage you to share your talents with us. Students benefit from the participation of our volunteers. If you would like to volunteer on a one-time or regular basis, please contact our office at 678-1552.

Adults who wish to volunteer in our building will be subject to a background check at the cost of the district. Please visit our office for more information.

Library, Art, Music, and Physical Education classes:

Students will participate in library, art, physical education, and music. For safety reasons, it is recommended that students wear tennis shoes on the day their class is scheduled for P.E.

Students will visit the library weekly. Books can be checked out (loaned) for one week. Students are expected to return their books to the library the following week during their regularly scheduled library time. Should a book become two weeks overdue, parents may receive a late notice from the library. Parents may be responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged books at the cost of replacement. Students who have missing or damaged books may not be able to check out new books until the replacement cost has been paid or the outstanding book has been returned.

School cancellation and early dismissal announcements:

If school should be canceled or dismissed early for any reason, Springfield and Joplin radio and television stations will be notified. Information about cancellations or early dismissal will be available from the following radio stations: KTTS AM/FM; KGBX AM/FM; and KSWM/KQMO AM/FM; and from the following television stations: KYTV; KOLR, KSPR, and KOZK. Parents will also receive a phone message through the School Reach phone notification system. Phone numbers called are usually the home phone number and up to two other phone numbers (3 numbers total). In the event you are not receiving the School Reach phone messages, please contact the Pate office at 678-1552.

SIS Parent Portal: The Parent Portal is an Internet resource for parents to access a variety of their student's records. Parents can access course schedules, attendance, term grades, discipline, medical records, lunch account, and lunch menu information. This is a very user friendly system, but if you need assistance you can contact the school office for more information.

Concerns for protecting student privacy online prompts that individuals seeking access to the SIS website have their identities and parental guardian rights verified before being granted log-in privileges.

Virtual/MOCAP:

Students interested in MOCAP (Virtual Education) should see the counselor for more information including:

- Enrollment requirements
- Authorized vendors
- Course offerings
- Eligibility criteria
- MSHSAA requirements

The Aurora R-VIII School District offers several virtual/online courses through Edgenuity. In addition, the district also partners with the Springfield Public School's Launch Program, which has a large variety of rigorous online courses available for K-12.

MOCAP

Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program (MOCAP) was established in 2007 as the state's online school. It was previously known as Missouri Virtual Instruction Program (MOVIP). Currently, MOCAP offers courses for kindergarten through grade 12. Students can take courses from any Internet-connected computer, available 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week. MOCAP's mission is to offer Missouri students equal access to a wide range of high quality courses, and interactive online learning that is neither time nor place dependent.

Beginning January 2020, virtual course registration follows the same timelines and procedures used in each district school to place students in regular classes. Aurora R-VIII open enrollment in virtual courses occurs between August 1 and the end of the second week of school. Open enrollment for virtual courses also occurs during the first two weeks of second semester. Below is a link to the district's school board policy and administrative procedure regarding virtual courses (IGCD and IGCD-AP(1)) and a link to the DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) MOCAP page. If you would like additional information about virtual courses, please contact the building counselor or principal where your child attends.

The district will pay the cost of a virtual course only if the district has first approved the student's enrollment in the course as described in the policy. Even if a student or his or her parents/guardians pay the costs for a virtual course, the student or parents/guardians should meet with the principal or designee prior to enrollment to ensure that the course is consistent with the student's academic and personal goals.

The district is not required to provide students access to or pay for courses beyond the equivalent of full-time enrollment. Students taking courses virtually are subject to district policies, procedures, and rules applicable to students enrolled in traditional courses including, but not limited to, the district's discipline code and prohibitions on academic dishonesty, discrimination, harassment, bullying, and cyberbullying.

When determining if enrollment in a virtual course is the best educational decision for a student, the student and parent should consider the following information.

Preferred Student Skills for Success in Virtual Courses:

- *Student has demonstrated time-management skills that indicate the student is capable of submitting assignments and completing course requirements without reminders.
- *Student has demonstrated persistence in overcoming obstacles and willingness to seek assistance when needed.

- *Student has demonstrated verbal or written communication skills that would allow the student to succeed in an environment where the instructor may not provide nonverbal cues to support the student's understanding.
- *Student has the necessary computer or technical skills to succeed in a virtual course.
- *Student has access to technology resources to participate in a virtual course.
- *Student previously has been successful with virtual coursework.

Appeals Process

If the principal or designee determines that it is not in a student's best educational interest to take a virtual course, the student and the parents/guardians will be notified in writing, provided an explanation for the decision and informed that the student or parents/guardians may appeal the decision to the Board. However, if the student is receiving special education services, the student's IEP team will make the final decision regarding student enrollment in a virtual course in accordance with federal law, and the decision must be appealed through the special education process rather than through the Board.

If the student or parent/guardian appeals to the Board, the principal or designee will provide the Board written reasons for denying the student's enrollment, and the student or parent/guardian will provide written reasons the student should be allowed to take the course. Both documents will be retained by the Board and will be incorporated into the minutes. In addition, the student, parents/guardians and the principal or designee will be allowed to present their arguments at a Board meeting.

The appeal to the Board shall be held in closed session. The Board will consider the information presented and release a written decision within 30 calendar days of the meeting. The student or parents/guardians may appeal the decision to DESE. The appeal to DESE must be filed within 7 days of the Board's final decision.

Board Policy IGCD and Administrative Procedure IGCD-AP(1)

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/policy.aspx?PC=IGCD&Sch=271&S=271&C=I&RevNo=1.01&T=A&Z=P&St=ADOPTED&PG=6&SN=true>

[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/policy.aspx?PC=IGCD-AP\(1\)&Sch=271&S=271&C=I&RevNo=1.01&T=A&Z=R&St=ADOPTED&PG=6&SN=true](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/policy.aspx?PC=IGCD-AP(1)&Sch=271&S=271&C=I&RevNo=1.01&T=A&Z=R&St=ADOPTED&PG=6&SN=true)

MOCAP Website

<https://mocap.mo.gov/>

Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI)

The Aurora R-VIII School District has worked through a collaborative process to implement an Alternative Method of Instruction (AMI) plan to be utilized for up to 4 days when school is closed due to a health concern, inclement weather, flooding, exceptional emergency circumstances, or other natural disasters.

The goal of the AMI plan is to embed learning activities focused on reinforcement of critical learning standards, enrichment activities, or support for further skill development. Consistent practice and exposure to skills without interruption is the most effective way to ensure student understanding and mastery of content knowledge.

We will notify all parents/guardians, as we have in the past, via school outreach calls/text and social media postings in the event of school closures and use of AMI days.

Student Discipline

It is essential that the district maintain a classroom environment that allows teachers to communicate effectively with all students in the class and allows all students in the class to learn. To assist district staff in maintaining the necessary classroom environment, the Board of Education has created a discipline code that addresses the consequences, including suspension or expulsion, for students whose conduct is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools or impairs the morale or good conduct of other students.

The comprehensive written code of conduct of the district is composed of this policy and includes, but is not limited to, the following policies, procedures and regulations: JG-R, JGA, JGB, JGD, JGE and JGF. A copy of the district's comprehensive written code of conduct will be distributed to every student and the parents/guardians of every student at the beginning of each school year and will be available in the superintendent's office during normal business hours.

Application

These policies, regulations and procedures will apply to all students in attendance in district instructional and support programs as well as at school-sponsored activities. Off-campus misconduct that adversely affects the educational climate will also be subject to these policies, regulations and procedures. Students who have been charged, convicted or pled guilty in a court of general jurisdiction for commission of a felony may be suspended in accordance with law.

The Board authorizes the immediate removal of a student upon a finding by a principal or superintendent that the student poses a threat of harm to self or others, as evidenced by the prior conduct of such student. Any such removal will be subject to the appropriate due process procedures and in accordance with law.

No student may be confined in an unattended locked space except in an emergency situation while awaiting the arrival of law enforcement personnel. For the purpose of this policy, a student is unattended if no person has visual contact with the student, and a locked space is a space that the student cannot reasonably exit without assistance.

Enforcement

Building principals are responsible for the development of additional regulations and procedures regarding student conduct needed to maintain proper behavior in schools under their supervision. All such regulations and procedures shall be consistent with Board-adopted discipline policies.

Teachers have the authority and responsibility to make and enforce necessary rules for internal governance in the classroom, subject to review by the building principal. The

Board expects each teacher to maintain a satisfactory standard of conduct in the classroom. All district staff are required to enforce district policies, regulations and procedures in a manner that is fair and developmentally appropriate and that considers the student and the individual circumstances involved.

All employees of the district shall annually receive instruction related to the specific contents of the district's discipline policy and any interpretations necessary to implement the provisions of the policy in the course of their duties including, but not limited to, approved methods of dealing with acts of school violence, disciplining students with disabilities and instruction in the necessity and requirements for confidentiality.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Date 9/15/201
Adopted: 5

Aurora R-VIII

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Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State Reference	Description
§160.261, RSMo.	<u>State Statute</u>
§160.262, RSMo.	<u>State Statute</u>
§160.263, RSMo.	<u>State Statute</u>
§167.161, RSMo	<u>State Statute</u>
§167.171, RSMo	<u>State Statute</u>
§171.011, RSMo.	<u>State Statute</u>


Federal Reference

20 U.S.C. §§ 7102-7165

FED COURT

DescriptionSafe and Drug-Free Schools and Community ActBeussink v. Woodland R-IV Sch. Dist., 30 F. Supp. 2d 1175 (E.D. Mo 1998)

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DescriptionPROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND RETALIATIONUSE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND IMITATION TOBACCO PRODUCTSTRAFFIC AND PARKING CONTROLSREPRODUCTION OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALSSTAFF/STUDENT RELATIONSGRADUATION EXERCISESTEST INTEGRITY AND SECURITY**Regulation****Descriptor Code: JG-R1****STUDENT DISCIPLINE**[Select Language](#)  ▼PRINT 

The Student Code of Conduct is designed to foster student responsibility, respect for others, and to provide for the orderly operation of district schools. No code can be expected to list each and every offense that may result in disciplinary action; however, it is the purpose of this code to list certain offenses which, if committed by a student, will result in the imposition of a certain disciplinary action. Any conduct not included herein, any aggravated circumstance of any offense, or any action involving a combination of offenses may result in disciplinary consequences that extend beyond this code of conduct as determined by the principal, superintendent and/or Board of Education. In extraordinary circumstances where the minimum consequence is judged by the superintendent or designee to be manifestly unfair or not in the interest of the district, the superintendent or designee may reduce the consequences listed in this policy, as allowed by law. This code includes, but is not necessarily limited to, acts of students on district property, including playgrounds, parking lots and district transportation, or at a district activity, whether on or off district property. The district may also discipline

students for off-campus conduct that negatively impacts the educational environment, to the extent allowed by law.

Reporting to Law Enforcement

It is the policy of the Aurora R-VIII School District to report all crimes occurring on district property to law enforcement including, but not limited to, the crimes the district is required to report in accordance with law. A list of crimes the district is required to report is included in policy JGF.

The principal shall also notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and superintendent if a student is discovered to possess a controlled substance or weapon in violation of the district's policy.

In addition, the superintendent shall notify the appropriate division of the juvenile or family court upon suspension for more than ten days or expulsion of any student who the district is aware is under the jurisdiction of the court.

Documentation in Student's Discipline Record

The principal, designee or other administrators or school staff will maintain all discipline records as deemed necessary for the orderly operation of the schools and in accordance with law and policy JGF.

Conditions of Suspension, Expulsion and Other Disciplinary Consequences

All students who are suspended or expelled, regardless of the reason, are prohibited from participating in or attending any district-sponsored activity, or being on or near district property or the location of any district activity for any reason, unless permission is granted by the superintendent or designee. In addition, the district may prohibit students from participating in activities or restrict a student's access to district property as a disciplinary consequence even if a student is not suspended or expelled from school, if appropriate.

In accordance with law, any student who is suspended for any offenses listed in § 160.261, RSMo., or any act of violence or drug-related activity defined by policy JGF as a serious violation of school discipline shall not be allowed to be within 1,000 feet of any district property or any activity of the district, regardless of whether the activity takes place on district property, unless one of the following conditions exist:

1. The student is under the direct supervision of the student's parent, legal guardian, custodian or another adult designated in advance, in writing, to the student's principal by the student's parent, legal guardian or custodian, and the superintendent or designee has authorized the student to be on district property.
2. The student is enrolled in and attending an alternative school that is located within 1,000 feet of a public school in the district.
3. The student resides within 1,000 feet of a public school in the district and is on the property of his or her residence.

If a student violates the prohibitions in this section, he or she may be suspended or expelled in accordance with the offense, "Failure to Meet Conditions of Suspension, Expulsion or Other Disciplinary Consequences," listed below.

Impact on Grades

As with any absence, absences due to an out-of-school suspension may result in the student earning a lower grade in accordance with the district’s policy on absences.

Prohibited Conduct

The following are descriptions of prohibited conduct as well as potential consequences for violations. Building-level administrators are authorized to more narrowly tailor potential consequences as appropriate for the age level of students in the building. All consequences must be within the ranges established in this regulation. In addition to the consequences specified here, school officials will notify law enforcement and document violations in the student's discipline file pursuant to law and Board policy.

Academic Dishonesty – Cheating on tests, assignments, projects or similar activities; plagiarism; claiming credit for another person's work; fabrication of facts, sources or other supporting material; unauthorized collaboration; facilitating academic dishonesty; and other misconduct related to academics.

First Offense:	No credit for the work, grade reduction, or replacement assignment.
Subsequent Offense:	No credit for the work, grade reduction, course failure, or removal from extracurricular activities.

Arson – Starting or attempting to start a fire, or causing or attempting to cause an explosion.

First Offense:	Detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion. Restitution if appropriate.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion. Restitution if appropriate.

Assault

- Using physical force, such as hitting, striking or pushing, to cause or attempt to cause physical injury; placing another person in apprehension of immediate physical injury; recklessly engaging in conduct that creates a grave risk of death or serious physical injury; causing physical contact with another person knowing the other person will regard the contact as offensive or provocative; or any other act that constitutes criminal assault in the third degree.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

2. Knowingly causing or attempting to cause serious bodily injury or death to another person, recklessly causing serious bodily injury to another person, or any other act that constitutes assault in the first or second degree.

First Offense:	10-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	Expulsion.

Automobile/Vehicle Misuse – Uncourteous or unsafe driving on or around district property, unregistered parking, failure to move vehicle at the request of school officials, failure to follow directions given by school officials or failure to follow established rules for parking or driving on district property.

First Offense:	Suspension or revocation of parking privileges, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Revocation of parking privileges, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Bullying and Cyberbullying (see Board policy JFCF) – Intimidation or harassment of a student or multiple students perpetuated by individuals or groups. Bullying includes, but is not limited to: physical actions, including violence, gestures, theft, or damaging property; oral or written taunts, including name-calling, put-downs, extortion, or threats; threats of retaliation for reporting such acts; sending or posting harmful or cruel text or images using the Internet or other digital communication devices; sending or posting materials that threaten or raise concerns about violence against others, suicide or self-harm. Students will not be disciplined for speech in situations where the speech is protected by law.

First Offense:	Detention, in-school suspension, or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Bus or Transportation Misconduct (see Board policy JFCC) – Any offense committed by a student on transportation provided by or through the district shall be punished in the same manner as if the offense had been committed at the student's assigned school. In addition, transportation privileges may be suspended or revoked.

Dishonesty – Any act of lying, whether verbal or written, including forgery.

First Offense:	Nullification of forged document. Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Nullification of forged document. Detention, in-school suspension, or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.

Disrespectful or Disruptive Conduct or Speech (see Board policy AC if illegal harassment or discrimination is involved) – Verbal, written, pictorial or symbolic language or gesture that is directed at any person that is in violation of district policy or

is otherwise rude, vulgar, defiant, considered inappropriate in educational settings or that materially and substantially disrupts classroom work, school activities or school functions. Students will not be disciplined for speech in situations where it is protected by law.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Drugs/Alcohol (see Board policies JFCH and JHCD)

1. Possession, sale, purchase or distribution of any over-the-counter drug, herbal preparation or imitation drug or herbal preparation.

First Offense:	In-school suspension or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

2. Possession of or attendance while under the influence of or soon after consuming any unauthorized prescription drug, alcohol, narcotic substance, unauthorized inhalants, counterfeit drugs, imitation controlled substances or drug-related paraphernalia, including controlled substances and illegal drugs defined as substances identified under schedules I, II, III, IV or V in section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act.

First Offense:	In-school suspension or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	11-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

3. Sale, purchase or distribution of any prescription drug, alcohol, narcotic substance, unauthorized inhalants, counterfeit drugs, imitation controlled substances or drug-related paraphernalia, including controlled substances and illegal drugs defined as substances identified under schedules I, II, III, IV or V in section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act.

First Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	11-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Extortion – Threatening or intimidating any person for the purpose of obtaining money or anything of value.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Failure to Care for or Return District Property – Loss of, failure to return, or damage to district property including, but not limited to, books, computers, calculators, uniforms, and sporting and instructional equipment.

First Offense:	Restitution. Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Restitution. Detention or in-school suspension.

Failure to Meet Conditions of Suspension, Expulsion or Other Disciplinary Consequences – Violating the conditions of a suspension, expulsion or other disciplinary consequence including, but not limited to, participating in or attending any district-sponsored activity or being on or near district property or the location where a district activity is held. See the section of this regulation titled, "Conditions of Suspension, Expulsion and Other Disciplinary Consequences."

As required by law, when the district considers suspending a student for an additional period of time or expelling a student for being on or within 1,000 feet of district property during a suspension, consideration shall be given to whether the student poses a threat to the safety of any child or school employee and whether the student's presence is disruptive to the educational process or undermines the effectiveness of the district's discipline policy.

First Offense:	Verbal warning, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion. Report to law enforcement for trespassing if expelled.
Subsequent Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion. Report to law enforcement for trespassing if expelled.

False Alarms (see also "Threats or Verbal Assault") – Tampering with emergency equipment, setting off false alarms, making false reports; communicating a threat or false report for the purpose of frightening or disturbing people, disrupting the educational environment or causing the evacuation or closure of district property.

First Offense:	Restitution. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	Restitution. In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Fighting (see also, "Assault") – Mutual combat in which both parties have contributed to the conflict either verbally or by physical action.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Gambling – Betting on an uncertain outcome, regardless of stakes; engaging in any game of chance or activity in which something of real or symbolic value may be won or lost. Gambling includes, but is not limited to, betting on outcomes of activities, assignments, contests and games.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, loss of privileges, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Principal/Student conference, loss of privileges, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Harassment, including Sexual Harassment (see Board policy AC)

1. Use of material of a sexual nature or unwelcome verbal, written or symbolic language based on gender, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability or any other characteristic protected by law. Examples of illegal harassment include, but are not limited to, racial jokes or comments; requests for sexual favors and other unwelcome sexual advances; graffiti; name calling; or threatening, intimidating or hostile acts based on a protected characteristic.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

2. Unwelcome physical contact of a sexual nature or that is based on gender, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability or any other characteristic protected by law. Examples include, but are not limited to, touching or fondling of the genital areas, breasts or undergarments, regardless of whether the touching occurred through or under clothing; or pushing or fighting based on protected characteristics.

First Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Hazing (see Board policy JFCG) – Any activity that a reasonable person believes would negatively impact the mental or physical health or safety of a student or put the student in a ridiculous, humiliating, stressful or disconcerting position for the purposes of initiation, affiliation, admission, membership or maintenance of membership in any group, class, organization, club or athletic team including, but not limited to, a grade level, student organization or district-sponsored activity. Hazing may occur even when all students involved are willing participants.

First Offense:	In-school suspension or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Incendiary Devices or Fireworks – Possessing, displaying or using matches, lighters or other devices used to start fires unless required as part of an educational exercise and supervised by district staff; possessing or using fireworks.

First Offense:	Confiscation. Warning, principal/student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Nuisance Items – Possession or use of items such as toys, games, and portable media players that are not authorized for educational purposes.

First Offense:	Confiscation. Warning, principal/student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Public Display of Affection – Physical contact that is inappropriate for the school setting including, but not limited to, kissing and groping.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Sexting and/or Possession of Sexually Explicit, Vulgar or Violent Material – Students may not possess or display, electronically or otherwise, sexually explicit, vulgar or violent material including, but not limited to, pornography or depictions of nudity, violence or explicit death or injury. This prohibition does not apply to curricular material that has been approved by district staff for its educational value. Students will not be disciplined for speech in situations where it is protected by law.

First Offense:	Confiscation. Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation. Detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Sexual Activity – Acts of sex or simulated acts of sex including, but not limited to, intercourse or oral or manual stimulation.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Technology Misconduct (see Board policies EHB and KKB and procedure EHB-AP)

1. Attempting, regardless of success, to: gain unauthorized access to a technology system or information; use district technology to connect to other systems in evasion of the physical limitations of the remote system; copy district files without authorization; interfere with the ability of others to utilize district technology; secure a higher level of privilege without authorization; introduce computer viruses, hacking tools, or other disruptive/destructive programs onto or using district technology; or evade or disable a filtering/blocking device.

First Offense:	Restitution. Principal/Student conference, loss of user privileges, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Restitution. Loss of user privileges, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

2. Using, displaying or turning on pagers, phones, personal digital assistants, personal laptops or any other personal electronic devices during the regular school day, including class change time, mealtimes or instructional class time, unless the use is part of the instructional program, required by a district-sponsored class or activity, or otherwise permitted by the building principal.

First Offense:	Confiscation, principal/student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation, principal/student conference, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

3. Violations, other than those listed in (1) or (2) above, of Board policy EHB, procedure EHB-AP or any policy or procedure regulating student use of personal electronic devices.

First Offense:	Restitution. Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Restitution. Loss of user privileges, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

4. Use of audio or visual recording equipment in violation of Board policy KKB.

First Offense:	Confiscation. Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Theft – Theft, attempted theft or knowing possession of stolen property.

First Offense:	Return of or restitution for property. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
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Subsequent Offense:	Return of or restitution for property. 1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
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Threats or Verbal Assault – Verbal, written, pictorial or symbolic language or gestures that create a reasonable fear of physical injury or property damage.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Tobacco

1. Possession of any tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, or other nicotine-delivery products on district property, district transportation or at any district activity. Nicotine patches or other medications used in a tobacco cessation program may only be possessed in accordance with district policy JHCD.

First Offense:	Confiscation of tobacco product. Principal/Student conference, detention, or in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation of tobacco product. Detention, in-school suspension, or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

2. Use of any tobacco products, electronic cigarettes, or other nicotine-delivery products on district property, district transportation or at any district activity. Nicotine patches or other medications used in a tobacco cessation program may only be used in accordance with district policy JHCD.

First Offense:	Confiscation of tobacco product. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-3 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Confiscation of tobacco product. In-school suspension or 1-10 days out-of-school suspension.

Truancy or Tardiness (see Board policy JED and procedures JED-AP1 and JED-AP2) – Absence from school without the knowledge and consent of parents/guardians and the school administration; excessive non-justifiable absences, even with the consent of parents/guardians; arriving after the expected time class or school begins, as determined by the district.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, or 1-3 days in-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	Detention or 3-10 days in-school suspension, and removal from extracurricular activities.

Unauthorized Entry – Entering or assisting any other person to enter a district facility, office, locker, or other area that is locked or not open to the general public; entering or

assisting any other person to enter a district facility through an unauthorized entrance; assisting unauthorized persons to enter a district facility through any entrance.

First Offense:	Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, or 1-180 days out-of-school suspension.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

Vandalism (see Board policy ECA) – Willful damage or the attempt to cause damage to real or personal property belonging to the district, staff or students.

First Offense:	Restitution. Principal/Student conference, detention, in-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	Restitution. In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.

Weapons (see Board policy JFCJ)

1. Possession or use of any weapon as defined in Board policy, other than those defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, 18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2) or § 571.010, RSMo.

First Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

2. Possession or use of a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921 or any instrument or device defined in § 571.010, RSMo., or any instrument or device defined as a dangerous weapon in 18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2).

First Offense:	One calendar year suspension or expulsion, unless modified by the Board upon recommendation by the superintendent.
Subsequent Offense:	Expulsion.

3. Possession or use of ammunition or a component of a weapon.

First Offense:	In-school suspension, 1-180 days out-of-school suspension, or expulsion.
Subsequent Offense:	1-180 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Policy

Descriptor Code: JFCA

STUDENT DRESS CODE

[Select Language](#)  

The Board of Education recognizes the value of allowing individual student expression as well as the necessity of protecting student health and safety and maintaining an atmosphere conducive to education. Student dress code procedures must be designed with the goal of balancing these competing interests.

All dress code procedures will adhere to health and safety codes and comply with applicable law. Dress that materially disrupts the educational environment will be prohibited. No procedure will impose dress and grooming rules based on gender in violation of Title IX. District procedures will specifically define ambiguous terms, and examples will be provided when practicable.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Date 9/15/201
Adopted: 5

Aurora R-VIII

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Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State Reference

§167.166, RSMo

Description

[State Statute](#)

Federal Reference

20 U.S.C. § 1681

FED COURT

FED COURT

Description

[Federal Statute](#)

[Bishop v. Colaw, 450 F.2d 1069 \(8th Cir. 1971\)](#)

[Stephenson v. Davenport Comm. Sch. Dist., 110 F.3d 1303 \(8th Cir. 1997\)](#)

Policy Reference

EBBA


Description

[ILLNESS AND INJURY RESPONSE AND PREVENTION](#)

Administrative Procedure

Descriptor Code: JFCA-AP(1)

STUDENT DRESS CODE

[Select Language](#)  ▼

PRINT 

The Board of Education expects student dress and grooming to be neat, clean and in good taste so that each student may share in promoting a positive, healthy and safe atmosphere within the school district.

Student dress and grooming will be the responsibility of the individual and parents/guardians, within the following guidelines:

1. Dress and grooming will be clean and in keeping with health, sanitary and safety requirements.
2. All students must wear shoes, boots or other types of footwear.
3. Dress and grooming will not disrupt the educational environment.
4. Class activities that present a concern for student safety may require the student to adjust hair and/or clothing during the class period in the interest of maintaining safety standards.
5. Additional dress guidelines may be imposed upon students participating in certain extracurricular activities.

When, in the judgment of the principal, a student's appearance or mode of dress does not comply with the above criteria, the student may be required to make modifications. No employee or volunteer shall direct a student to remove an emblem, insignia or garment, including a religious emblem, insignia or garment, as long as it is worn in a manner that does not promote disruptive behavior.

Additional requirements may be detailed in building handbooks.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to review policies and/or forms for related information in this administrative area.

DRESS CODE-Preschool Through 4th Grade

The primary responsibility for proper dress rests with students and parents. The school reserves the right to request that students dress in a manner that is acceptable to the best interest of the entire student body. **Dress or grooming will not disrupt the teaching/learning process or draw undue attention to an individual student.** When student dress or grooming is considered disruptive, the student shall be required to change to appropriate clothing or be removed from the school program. Some general guidelines are as follows:

- A. Footwear is required. Shoes with wheels/skates or house shoes/slippers are not to be worn in the building.
- B. Teachers of specific courses where safety is a factor may require students to adjust hair and/or clothing accordingly for that class.
- C. Clothing shall not have writing, drawings, or emblems that are obscene or make sexual innuendos, derogatory, or which promote the sale or use of drugs including tobacco and alcohol products.
- D. Shorts of appropriate length are permitted.
- E. Tights are considered undergarments and are to be worn as such. Shorts, skirts, and dresses worn with these undergarments must be appropriate length.
- F. Midriffs, backless, net, low-cut tops, and see-through clothing is not permitted. All tops must have enough length to extend beyond the waistband of the student's pants/skirt/shorts at all times (undergarments shall not be seen).
- G. Extremely tattered, ragged, baggy, or frayed clothing is not permitted (undergarments shall not be seen). Clothing with holes that create an inappropriate appearance or that is distracting are prohibited (holes cannot be above fingertip level-short length).
- H. Hats, bandanas, or other forms of head covers are not to be worn. Sunglasses and jewelry, which create disorder, are not to be worn in the building.
- I. Facial piercings will not be permitted if they cause a disruption to the educational process.
- J. Jeans, slacks, skirts, and shorts will be worn at waist level.
- K. Muscle shirts, cut-off sleeves, and mesh football jerseys may only be worn over shirts.
- L. Clothing styles or unusual grooming that create disorder, either in the classroom or while attending school-sponsored activities, will not be allowed.

Ref: BOE Policy - JFCA

****** Exceptions to the dress code may be made during spirit day/week if approved by building administrator.***

ASBESTOS

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that has properties that make it an ideal building material for insulating, sound absorption, decorative plasters, fireproofing, and a variety of miscellaneous uses. There have been over 3,000 different products made using asbestos materials. However, when it became recognized as a health hazard, Congress enacted the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 (referred to as AHERA) in order to determine the extent of, and to develop solutions for any problems schools may have with asbestos. The EPA began action to limit uses of asbestos products in 1973 and most uses of asbestos products as building materials were banned in 1978.

The Aurora R-VIII School District has recently had our facilities inspected by a certified asbestos inspector, as required by AHERA. The inspector located, sampled, and rated the condition and hazard potential of all material in our facilities suspected as containing asbestos. The inspection and laboratory analysis records were turned over to a professional certified to develop asbestos management plans. He has developed an asbestos management plan for our facilities which includes: this notification letter, education and training of our employees, and a set of plans and procedures designed to minimize the disturbance of the asbestos containing materials and plans for regular surveillance of the asbestos containing materials.

A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for your inspection in our administrative offices during regular office hours. All inquiries regarding the plan may be directed to the Asbestos Coordinator at 417-678-3373. We are intent on not only complying with and exceeding federal, state, and local regulations in this area. We plan on taking whatever steps are necessary to insure your children and our employees have a healthy, safe environment in which to learn and work. (Board Policy EBAB-AP(1).

ASSESSMENT

The Aurora R-VIII Schools will use standardized assessments as one indication of the success and quality of the district's education program. Further, the Board recognizes its obligation to provide for and administer assessments as required by law. The Board directs the superintendent or designee to create procedures governing assessments consistent with law and Board policy. In cooperation with the administrative and instructional staff, the Board will annually review student performance data and use this information to evaluate the effectiveness of the district's instructional programs, making adjustments as necessary. The district will comply with all assessment requirements for students with disabilities mandated by federal and state law, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The superintendent or designee shall ensure that the district has a written assessment plan that shall test competency in the subject areas of communication arts, reading, language arts, science, mathematics, social studies and civics, as required by law. The purposes of the district wide assessment plan are to facilitate and provide information regarding student achievement, student counseling, instructional change, and school and district evaluation.

The district will implement the components of the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) in order to monitor the progress of all students in meeting the Missouri Learning Standards, as set forth by the Missouri State Board of Education. Any eligible student for whom English is a second language shall participate, but the student's scores shall not be counted until the student has been educated for three (3) full school years in a school in which English is the primary language. (Board Policy IL).

HUMAN SEXUALITY CURRICULUM

Pursuant to requirements of state law, if the district chooses to use any course materials and instruction relating to human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases the materials and instruction shall be medically and factually accurate. The law also requires that the materials and instruction, if used, shall: (1) present abstinence from sexual activity as the preferred choice of behavior in relation to all sexual activity for unmarried students because it is the only method that is one hundred percent effective in preventing pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases and the emotional trauma associated with adolescent sexual activity, and advise students that teenage sexual activity places them at a higher risk of dropping out of school because of the consequences of sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancy; (2) stress that sexually transmitted diseases are serious, possible health hazards of sexual activity. Students shall be provided with the latest medical information regarding exposure to human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), human papilloma virus, hepatitis and other sexually transmitted diseases; (3) present students with the latest medically factual information regarding both the possible side effects and health benefits of all forms of contraception, including the success and failure rates for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases; (4) include a discussion of the possible emotional and psychological consequences of preadolescent and adolescent sexual activity and the consequences of adolescent pregnancy, as well as the advantages of adoption, including the adoption of special needs children, and the processes involved in making an adoption plan; (5) teach skills of conflict management, personal responsibility and positive self-esteem through discussion and role playing at appropriate grade levels to emphasize that the student has the power to control personal behavior. Students shall be encouraged to base their actions on reasoning, self-discipline, sense of responsibility, self-control, and ethical considerations, such as respect for one's self and others. Students shall be taught not to make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances or otherwise exploit another person. Students shall be taught to resist unwanted sexual advances and other negative peer pressure; (6) advise students of the laws pertaining to their financial responsibility to children born in and out of wedlock and advise students of the provisions of chapter 566, RSMo., pertaining to statutory rape.

Students may be separated by gender for human sexuality instruction. The Board shall determine the specific content of the district's instruction in human sexuality, in accordance with the requirements of state law. Instruction in human sexuality is to be appropriate to the age of the students receiving such instruction.

The district is required to notify the parent or legal guardian of each student enrolled in the district of the basic content of the district's human sexuality instruction to be provided to the student and of the parent's right to remove the student from any part of the district's human sexuality instruction. The district is required to make all curriculum materials used in the district's human sexuality instruction available for public inspection as a public record prior to the use of such materials in actual instruction. (Board Policy IGAEB).

EARTHQUAKES AND OTHER EMERGENCIES

In accordance with law, the Aurora School District has developed and implemented a district-wide school building disaster plan, in order to protect students and staff during and after earthquakes and other emergencies. Emergency exercises that require students and staff to simulate emergency conditions are held each year for fire, severe weather, tornado, bus evacuation, earthquakes, lock-down, shelter-in-place, and evacuation.

Earthquakes are the shaking, rolling or sudden shock of the earth's surface. Earthquakes happen along "fault lines" in the earth's crust. Earthquakes can be felt over large areas although they usually last less than one minute. Most of the time, you will notice an earthquake by the gentle shaking of the ground. You may notice hanging plants swaying or objects wobbling on shelves. Sometimes you may hear a low rumbling noise or feel a sharp jolt. A survivor of the 1906 earthquake in San Francisco said the sensation was like riding a bicycle down a long flight of stairs. Earthquakes are sometimes called temblors, quakes, shakers or seismic activity. The most important thing to remember during an earthquake is to DROP, COVER and HOLD ON. So remember to DROP to the floor and get under something for COVER and HOLD ON during the shaking. (Board Policy EBC-1).

INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the district but are attending a private school within the district, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Aurora R-VIII School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child with a developmental delay.

The Aurora R-VIII School District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Aurora R-VIII School District assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the **Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**.

The Aurora R-VIII School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education

Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed at the district's Central Office, 201 S. Madison, Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate. (Board Policy IGBA-AP1, IGBA-AP2)

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND SCREENINGS

The Aurora R-VIII Schools will notify parents of the specific or approximate dates on which any non-emergency invasive physical examination or screening will be performed, if there are to be any such examinations or screenings. This notice is mandatory for any such procedure that is required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school, scheduled in advance, and not necessary to protect the immediate health or safety of the student and that exposes private body parts or includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body. The notice need not exclude hearing, vision or scoliosis screenings. If any such examination or screening is scheduled and any such notice made, the notice will offer an opportunity for the parents or an appropriately aged student to opt out of this activity. (Board Policy JHC).

READING INSTRUCTION

Students in grades K-4 are provided systematic, research-based instruction in reading for all students. Systematic and explicit instruction is used in the teaching of reading. All students receive at least ninety minutes of reading instruction per day. Additional materials are used to support and supplement the teaching of reading.

SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD

The Aurora R-VIII Schools will provide, at least annually, an accountability report card for each school building to any household with a student enrolled in the district. This report card may be distributed by: (1) providing a copy to students at enrollment, (2) inclusion with student grade reports, (3) in newspaper publications, (4) posting on the internet or other electronic means accessible to the public, or (5) making copies available at all building administrative offices.

Searches

School lockers and desks are the property of the Board of Education and are provided for the convenience of students, and as such, are subject to periodic inspection without notice. Students or student property may be searched based on reasonable suspicion of a violation of district rules, policy or state law. Reasonable suspicion must be based on facts known to the administration, credible information provided or reasonable inference drawn from such facts or information. Personal searches, and searches of student property, shall be limited in scope based on the original justification of the search. The privacy and dignity of students shall be respected. Searches shall be carried out in the presence of adult witnesses, and never in front of other students. Students shall not be required to undress, although they may be asked to empty pockets, or remove jackets, coats, shoes and other articles of exterior clothing for examination if reasonable under the circumstances.

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains the authority to conduct routine patrols of the student parking lots. The interior of a student's automobile on school premises may be searched if the school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that such a search will turn up evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school.

Law enforcement officials shall be contacted if the administration reasonably suspects that a student is concealing controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, weapons, stolen goods or evidence of a crime beneath his or her clothing and the student refuses to surrender such articles. Law enforcement officials may be contacted in any case involving a violation of law when a student refuses to allow a search, or where the search cannot safely be conducted. Parents may also be contacted. (Board Policy JFG).

STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY

The Aurora R-VIII Schools has a discipline policy and student code of conduct, which has been approved by the Board of Education and is published in the student handbook. This policy is designed to foster student responsibility, respect for the rights of others, and to ensure the orderly operation of district schools.

Board policy defines a weapon or weapons violation as the possession or use of any instrument or device, other than those defined in 18 U.S.C § 921, 18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2) or § 571.010, RSMO., which is customarily used for attack or defense against another person or any instrument or device used to inflict injury to another person. (Board Policy JG, JG-R1, JGA-2, JGB, JGD, JGE, JGF, JFCJ).

STUDENT RECORDS -FERPA

The Aurora R-VIII School District complies fully with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), which affords parents/guardians ("parents") and students who are at least age 18 ("eligible students") the following rights:

RIGHT TO INSPECT: Parents or eligible students have the right to inspect and review the student's "educational records," as that term is defined under FERPA, within 45 days of the date upon which the District receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to their School Principal a written request identifying the records to be inspected.

RIGHT TO PREVENT DISCLOSURE: Parents or eligible students have the right to prevent disclosure of educational records to third parties with certain limited exceptions. The District will attempt to limit the disclosure of information contained in educational records to those instances when prior written consent has been given for the disclosure. However, upon request, the District will disclose information to officials of other schools in which a student seeks or intends to enroll. The District may also disclose information under the provisions of FERPA that allow disclosure without prior written consent, as well as directory information (unless you have refused to permit such disclosure of directory information), in accordance with FERPA regulations. The District will disclose educational records to school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in the records. Officials include those persons employed by the District, whether paid or unpaid, as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member, including health or medical staff; persons retained by or under contract to the District to perform a special task, such as an attorney, auditor, etc.; or persons who are employed by the District's law enforcement unit. School officials have a legitimate educational interest if the officials are: performing a task related to a student's education; performing a task related to the discipline of a student; providing a service or benefit relating to the student or student's family, such as health care, counseling, job placement, or financial aid; or maintaining the safety and security of the campus.

DESIGNATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION: The District has designated certain information contained in the educational records of its students as directory information for purposes of FERPA. The District considers the following to be directory information:

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade -- Student's name; parent's name; date and place of birth; grade level; bus assignment; enrollment status (e.g., full-time or part-time); participation in school-based activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; honors and awards received; artwork or coursework displayed by the district; most recent previous school attended; and photographs, videotapes, digital images and recorded sound unless such photographs, videotapes, digital images and recorded sound would be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy.

High school and vocational school students -- Student's name; parent's name; address; telephone number; date and place of birth; grade level; bus assignment; enrollment status (e.g., full-time or part-time); participation in school-based activities and sports; weight and height of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; degrees, honors and awards received; artwork or coursework displayed by the district; most recent previous school attended; and photographs, videotapes, digital images and recorded sound unless such photographs, videotapes, digital images and recorded sound would be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy.

The District may disclose directory information for any purpose in its discretion without the consent of a parent of a student or an eligible student. Parents of students and eligible students have the right, however, to refuse to permit the designation of any or all of the above information as directory information. In that case, the information will not be disclosed except with the consent of a parent or student, or as otherwise allowed by FERPA. Any parent or student refusing to have any or all of the designated directory information disclosed must file written notification to this effect with the principal of the school which the student attends. In the event a notification of refusal is not filed, the District assumes that neither a parent of a student or an eligible student objects to the release of the directory information designated.

MILITARY RECRUITER ACCESS/STUDENT RECRUITING INFORMATION: Upon request of military recruiters, the District is required by law to provide access to secondary students' names, addresses, and telephone listings. The District is also required to provide military recruiters with the same access to secondary school students as is provided generally to post-secondary educational institutions or to prospective employers. However, any secondary student or parent of a secondary student may request that the student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released without prior written consent of the parent. Requests that a student's name, address, and telephone listing not be released to military recruiters must be submitted, in writing, to the Assistant Superintendent, Aurora R-VIII School District 201 S. Madison, Aurora, Missouri 65605-1422; phone (417) 6783373.

RIGHT TO REQUEST AMENDMENT: Parents or eligible students have the right to request that the District correct any parts of an educational record believed to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of their rights. A request should be submitted by the Parents or eligible students must identify, in writing, the part of the record sought to be corrected and specify why it is inaccurate/misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record, it will notify the parents or eligible student and provide information on the right to a hearing to present evidence that the record should be changed.

RIGHT TO COMPLAIN TO FERPA OFFICE: Parents or eligible students have the right to file an external complaint regarding the District's implementation of FERPA, and such complaint may be filed with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202. (Board Policy JO-1)

SURVEYS UNDER PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

The federal Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education: Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent; Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family; Sex behavior or attitudes; Illegal, anti-social, self incriminating, or demeaning behavior; Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships; Legally

recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers; Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of: any other protected information survey, regardless of funding; any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the District or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

Inspect, upon request and before administration or use: Protected information surveys of students; Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer to from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law. The District has adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The District will notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The District will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation in the specific activity or survey. The District will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement: Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution; Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education; Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights under the PPRA have been violated may file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20202-5920 (Board Policy JHDA and KI)

TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS-PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW

Parents can request information regarding the professional qualifications of their student's classroom teacher. This information will include whether the teacher is fully, partially, or provisionally certified by the state, whether the person is teaching in his or her area of certification, whether the child is provided services by a paraprofessional and that person's qualifications, and what degrees, endorsements or certifications are held by the teacher. The Aurora R-VIII Schools will notify parents in a timely manner if their child has been assigned to or taught by a teacher who is not highly qualified for four or more consecutive weeks.

Parent Information and Resource Centers

Parent Information and Resource Centers (PIRCs) help implement successful and effective parental involvement policies, programs, and activities that lead to improvements in student academic achievement and that strengthen partnerships among parents, teachers, principals, administrators, and other school personnel in meeting the education needs of children. Additional information, as well as resources for parents are available online at <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/pirc/index.html>.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Applicants for admission or employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral and applicants for employment, and all professional organizations that have entered into agreements with the Aurora R-VIII School District ("School District") are hereby notified that the School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. In addition, the School District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups.

Any person having inquiries concerning the School District's compliance with the laws and regulations implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), the Age Discrimination Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504), Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) or the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act, is directed to the respective Compliance Coordinator listed below, who oversees the School District's efforts to comply with the laws and regulations implementing the laws and regulations cited above.

The School District has established grievance procedures for persons unable to resolve problems arising under the statutes above. The School District's Compliance Coordinator will provide information regarding those procedures upon request.

Any person who is unable to resolve a problem or grievance arising under any of the laws and regulations cited above may contact the Office for

Civil Rights, Region VII, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114; telephone (816) 268-0550. (Board Policy AC)

COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR - Superintendent of Schools, 201 S. Madison Aurora, MO 65605

COMMITMENT TO COMPLIANCE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), the Aurora R-VIII School District ("School District") does not discriminate on the basis of disability against qualified individuals with a disability with respect to the School District's services, programs or activities.

Employment: The School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices. The School District complies with the federal regulations under Title I of the ADA (which governs the application of the ADA in the hiring and employment setting). **Effective Communication:** The School District will comply with the ADA with respect to providing auxiliary aids and services leading to effective communication for qualified persons with disabilities so they can participate equally in School District programs, services, and activities. These aids and services are designed to make information and communications accessible to people who have impairments, in areas such as speech, hearing, and vision. The School District will not place a surcharge on a qualified individual with a disability, or any group of qualified individuals with disabilities, to cover the cost of providing auxiliary aids/services or reasonable modifications of policy (for example, retrieving items from locations that are open to the public but inaccessible to users of wheelchairs).

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a service, program, or activity of the School District should contact the respective Compliance Coordinator, whose contact information is listed below. Such contact should be made as soon as possible, but not later than 48 hours before the scheduled event (and, preferably, at least five (5) business days before the event).

Modifications to Policies and Procedures: The School District will make reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that qualified individuals with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy its services, programs and activities.

The ADA does not require the School District to take any action that would fundamentally alter the nature of its programs or services or impose an undue financial or administrative burden.

Complaints that a School District service, program, or activity is not accessible to persons with a disability may be directed to the Compliance Coordinator below. In addition, as stated in the School District's Notice of Nondiscrimination, a person who is unable to resolve a problem or grievance arising under Title II of the ADA may contact the Office for Civil Rights, Region VII, 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, Missouri 64114; telephone (816) 268-0550. **COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR** - Superintendent of Schools, 201 S. Madison Aurora, MO 65605
DROPOUTS TO BE REPORTED TO STATE LITERACY HOT LINE--AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON WEBSITE.

167.275. 1. Effective January 1, 1991, all public and nonpublic secondary schools shall report to the state literacy hotline office in Jefferson City the name, mailing address and telephone number of all students sixteen years of age or older who drop out of school for any reason other than to attend another school, college or university, or enlist in the armed services. Such reports shall be made either by using the telephone hotline number or on forms developed by the department of elementary and secondary education. Upon such notification, the state literacy hotline office shall contact the student who has been reported and refer that student to the nearest location that provides adult basic education instruction leading to the completion of a general educational development certificate.

2. All records and reports from or based upon the reports required by this section shall be made available by free electronic record on the department's website or otherwise on the first business day of each month. The names of the students who drop out and any other information which might identify such students shall not be included in the records and reports made available by free electronic media.

As required by law ([167.275 RSMo](#)), all public and nonpublic secondary schools are to report secondary students who drop out of school for any reason other than to attend another school, college or university, or enlist in the armed services to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. A 2009 revision to the law now requires the Department to make available by free electronic record on the first business day of each month the number of dropouts reported by school districts during the previous month without the identifying information on individual students.

Because a high school education can significantly increase a person's lifetime earnings and employability and improve their standard of living, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education wants to contact the students who have left school as soon as possible. When schools report on a regular basis; such as monthly, it increases the chances of students receiving important information from DESE, such as the availability of [Adult Education and Literacy \(AEL\) classes](#) in their area of the state. For more information, contact the hotline at 800-521-7323.

SCHOOL SAFETY PROVISIONS--RULES.

160.6601. On or before July 1, 2001, the state board of education shall add to any school facilities and safety criteria developed for the Missouri school improvement program provisions that require:

1. Each school district's designated safety coordinator to have a thorough knowledge of all federal, state and local school violence prevention programs and resources available to students, teachers or staff in the district; and
2. Each school district to fully utilize all such programs and resources that the local school board or its designee determines are necessary and cost-effective for the school district.

Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section [536.010](#), that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable, section [536.028](#). This section and chapter 536 are non-severable and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the effective date or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28, 2000, shall be invalid and void. **Missouri Violence Hotline** - CALL 1-866-748-7047, toll-free [ONLINE](#): Fill out a form — 24/7; Download the free "MO ReportIt" App from your App store; TEXT to 847411 using keyword, "ReportIt" Include school name and city.

More information can be found at: <https://www.schoolviolencehotline.com/>.

IMMUNIZATION RECORDS, DISCLOSURE, TO WHOM--DISCLOSURE FOR UNAUTHORIZED PURPOSE, LIABILITY.

167.183. Information and records pertaining to the immunization status of persons against childhood diseases as required by section [167.181](#) and section [210.003](#) may be disclosed and exchanged without a parent's or guardian's written release authorizing such disclosure, to the following, who need to know such information to assure compliance with state statutes or to achieve age-appropriate immunization status for children:

1. Employees of public agencies, departments and political subdivisions;
2. Health records staff of school districts and childcare facilities;
3. Persons other than public employees who are entrusted with the regular care of those under the care and custody of a state agency including, but not limited to, operators of day care facilities, group homes, residential care facilities and adoptive or foster parents;
4. Health care professionals.

If any person, authorized in subsection 1 of this section, discloses such information for any other purpose, it is an unauthorized release of confidential information and the person shall be liable for civil damages. (Board Policy JHCB)

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY REQUIRED--DEFINITION--REQUIREMENTS.

160.775. 1. Every district shall adopt an anti-bullying policy by September 1, 2007.

2. "Bullying" means intimidation or harassment that causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting of such acts.

3. Each district's anti-bullying policy shall be founded on the assumption that all students need a safe learning environment. Policies shall treat students equally and shall not contain specific lists of protected classes of students who are to receive special treatment. Policies may include age appropriate differences for schools based on the grade levels at the school. Each such policy shall contain a statement of the consequences of bullying.

4. Each district's anti-bullying policy shall require district employees to report any instance of bullying of which the employee has firsthand knowledge. The district policy shall address training of employees in the requirements of the district policy. (Board Policy JFCF)

FOSTER CARE EDUCATION BILL OF RIGHTS--SCHOOL DISTRICT LIAISONS TO BE DESIGNATED, DUTIES.

167.018. 1. Sections 167.018 and [167.019](#) shall be known and may be cited as the "Foster Care Education Bill of Rights".

2. Each school district shall designate a staff person as the educational liaison for foster care children. The liaison shall do all of the following in an advisory capacity:

- (1) Ensure and facilitate the proper educational placement, enrollment in school, and checkout from school of foster children;
- (2) Assist foster care pupils when transferring from one school to another or from one school district to another, by ensuring proper transfer of credits, records, and grades;
- (3) Request school records, as provided in section [167.022](#), within two business days of placement of a foster care pupil in a school; and
- (4) Submit school records of foster care pupils within three business days of receiving a request for school records, under subdivision (3) of this subsection. **Educational Liaison for Foster Care Children - Assistant Superintendent, 201 S. Madison Aurora, MO 65605**

REPORTS OF ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND UNDER AGE EIGHTEEN DEATHS--PERSONS REQUIRED TO REPORT--SUPERVISORS AND ADMINISTRATORS NOT TO IMPEDE REPORTING--DEATHS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED TO THE DIVISION OR CHILD FATALITY REVIEW PANEL, WHEN--REPORT MADE TO ANOTHER STATE, WHEN.

210.115. 1. When any physician, medical examiner, coroner, dentist, chiropractor, optometrist, podiatrist, resident, intern, nurse, hospital or clinic personnel that are engaged in the examination, care, treatment or research of persons, and any other health practitioner, psychologist, mental health professional, social worker, day care center worker or other child-care worker, juvenile officer, probation or parole officer, jail or detention center personnel, teacher, principal or other school official, minister as provided by section [352.400](#), peace officer or law enforcement official, or other person with responsibility for the care of children has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been or may be subjected to abuse or neglect or observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, that person shall immediately report to the division in accordance with the provisions of sections [210.109](#) to [210.183](#). No internal investigation shall be initiated until such a report has been made. As used in this section, the term "abuse" is not limited to abuse inflicted by a person responsible for the child's care, custody and control as specified in section [210.110](#), but shall also include abuse inflicted by any other person.

TELEPHONE HOTLINE FOR REPORTS ON CHILD ABUSE--DIVISION DUTIES, PROTOCOLS, LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTACTED IMMEDIATELY, INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED, WHEN, EXCEPTION--CHIEF INVESTIGATOR NAMED--FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM MEETINGS, WHO MAY ATTEND--REPORTER'S RIGHT TO RECEIVE INFORMATION--ADMISSIBILITY OF REPORTS IN CUSTODY CASES.

210.145. 1. The division shall develop protocols which give priority to:

- (1) Ensuring the well-being and safety of the child in instances where child abuse or neglect has been alleged;
- (2) Promoting the preservation and reunification of children and families consistent with state and federal law;
- (3) Providing due process for those accused of child abuse or neglect; and
- (4) Maintaining an information system operating at all times, capable of receiving and maintaining reports. This information system shall have the ability to receive reports over a single, statewide toll-free number. Such information system shall maintain the results of all investigations, family assessments and services, and other relevant information.

Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline: 1-800-392-3738

More additional information visit: <http://dss.mo.gov/cd/can.htm>. (Board Policy JHG)

MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS EDUCATION ASSISTANCE IMPROVEMENT ACT

The following is the policy of the Congress:

- (1) Each State educational agency shall ensure that each child of a homeless individual and each homeless youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths.
- (2) In any State that has a compulsory residency requirement as a component of the State's compulsory school attendance laws or other laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youths, the State will review and undertake steps to revise such laws, regulations, practices, or policies to ensure that homeless children and youths are afforded the same free, appropriate public education as provided to other children and youths.
- (3) Homelessness alone is not sufficient reason to separate students from the mainstream school environment.
- (4) Homeless children and youths should have access to the education and other services that such children and youths need to ensure that such children and youths have an opportunity to meet the same challenging State student academic achievement standards to which all students are held. (Board Policy IGBCA)

COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR - Assistant Superintendent of Schools, 201 S. Madison Aurora, MO 65605

Virtual/MOCAP

Students interested in MOCAP (Virtual Education) should see the counselor for more information including:

- Enrollment requirements
- Authorized vendors
- Course offerings
- Eligibility criteria
- MSHSAA requirements

The Aurora R-VIII School District offers several virtual/online courses through Edgenuity. In addition, the district also partners with the Springfield Public School's Launch Program, which has a large variety of rigorous online courses available for K-12.

MOCAP

Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program (MOCAP) was established in 2007 as the state's online school. It was previously known as Missouri Virtual Instruction Program (MOVIP). Currently, MOCAP offers courses for kindergarten through grade 12. Students can take courses

from any Internet-connected computer, available 24 hours a day, and 7 days a week. MOCAP's mission is to offer Missouri students' equal access to a wide range of high quality courses, and interactive online learning that is neither time nor place dependent.

Beginning January 2020, virtual course registration follows the same timelines and procedures used in each district school to place students in regular classes. Aurora R-VIII open enrollment in virtual courses occurs between August 1 and the end of the second week of school. Open enrollment for virtual courses also occurs during the first two weeks of second semester. Below is a link to the district's school board policy and administrative procedure regarding virtual courses (IGCD and IGCD-AP(1)) and a link to the DESE (Department of Elementary and Secondary Education) MOCAP page. If you would like additional information about virtual courses, please contact the building counselor or principal where your child attends.

The district will pay the cost of a virtual course only if the district has first approved the student's enrollment in the course as described in the policy. Even if a student or his or her parents/guardians pay the costs for a virtual course, the student or parents/guardians should meet with the principal or designee prior to enrollment to ensure that the course is consistent with the student's academic and personal goals. The district is not required to provide students access to or pay for courses beyond the equivalent of full-time enrollment. Students taking courses virtually are subject to district policies, procedures, and rules applicable to students enrolled in traditional courses including, but not limited to, the district's discipline code and prohibitions on academic dishonesty, discrimination, harassment, bullying, and cyberbullying.

When determining if enrollment in a virtual course is the best educational decision for a student, the student and parent should consider the following information.

Preferred Student Skills for Success in Virtual Courses:

*Student has demonstrated time-management skills that indicate the student is capable of submitting assignments and completing course requirements without reminders.

*Student has demonstrated persistence in overcoming obstacles and willingness to seek assistance when needed.

*Student has demonstrated verbal or written communication skills that would allow the student to succeed in an environment where the instructor may not provide nonverbal cues to support the student's understanding.

*Student has the necessary computer or technical skills to succeed in a virtual course.

*Student has access to technology resources to participate in a virtual course.

*Student previously has been successful with virtual coursework.

Appeals Process

If the principal or designee determines that it is not in a student's best educational interest to take a virtual course, the student and the parents/guardians will be notified in writing, provided an explanation for the decision and informed that the student or parents/guardians may appeal the decision to the Board. However, if the student is receiving special education services, the student's IEP team will make the final decision regarding student enrollment in a virtual course in accordance with federal law, and the decision must be appealed through the special education process rather than through the Board.

If the student or parent/guardian appeals to the Board, the principal or designee will provide the Board written reasons for denying the student's enrollment, and the student or parent/guardian will provide written reasons the student should be allowed to take the course. Both documents will be retained by the Board and will be incorporated into the minutes. In addition, the student, parents/guardians and the principal or designee will be allowed to present their arguments at a Board meeting.

The appeal to the Board shall be held in closed session. The Board will consider the information presented and release a written decision within 30 calendar days of the meeting. The student or parents/guardians may appeal the decision to DESE. The appeal to DESE must be filed within 7 days of the Board's final decision.

Board Policy IGCD and Administrative Procedure IGCD-AP(1)

<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/policy.aspx?PC=IGCD&Sch=271&S=271&C=I&RevNo=1.01&T=A&Z=P&St=ADOPTED&PG=6&SN=true&SB=2>

[https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/policy.aspx?PC=IGCD-AP\(1\)&Sch=271&S=271&C=I&RevNo=1.01&T=A&Z=R&St=ADOPTED&PG=6&SN=true&SB=1](https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/ePolicy/policy.aspx?PC=IGCD-AP(1)&Sch=271&S=271&C=I&RevNo=1.01&T=A&Z=R&St=ADOPTED&PG=6&SN=true&SB=1)

MOCAP Website: <https://mocap.mo.gov/>

Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI)

The Aurora R-VIII School District has worked through a collaborative process to implement an Alternative Method of Instruction (AMI) plan to be utilized for up to 5 days when school is closed due to a health concern, inclement weather, flooding, exceptional emergency circumstances, or other natural disasters.

The goal of the AMI plan is to embed learning activities focused on reinforcement of critical learning standards, enrichment activities, or support for further skill development. Consistent practice and exposure to skills without interruption is the most effective way to ensure student understanding and mastery of content knowledge.

We will notify all parents/guardians, as we have in the past, via school outreach calls/text and social media postings in the event of school closures and use of AMI days.